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MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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UNIC and MDG Campaign interact with students

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Interactive education outreach programme conducted by UNIC in association with UN Millennium Development Campaign at Janajyoti Secondary School, Budol, Kabhrepalanchowk. Photo: UNIC

Kabhrepalanchowk 14 May: UNIC and the UN Millennium Development Goals Campaign (UNMC) jointly visited 2 public high schools in Kabhrepalanchowk, a district nearby Kathmandu valley, and interacted with students and teachers.

During the interactive programme, UNIC National Information Officer Ram Babu Shah and the UNMC National Advocacy Specialist Seema Rajouria spoke about the role of the UN in contemporary world in respect to world peace, protection of human rights and the significance of the MDGs in Nepal's context. UNIC and UNMC also provided relevant reading materials and posters for the schools' library. The teachers expressed views that such advocacy programmes should take place on regular basis to appraise students and teachers about the role played by the United Nations, both globally and in Nepal.



Interactive education outreach programme at Kanpur Secondary School, Kalapani, Khabre. Photo: UNIC

Web link

http://kathmandu.unic.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=190&Itemid=110

Radio Chautari on Air

UN Radio Nepal

Listen: http://unic.un.org/kathmandu

One can listen to the programmes on Ujyalo Network's 90 FM every Saturday from 07:30 a.m. to 08:00 a.m. and Radio Kantipur's 96.1 FM every Wednesday from 07:30 a.m. to 08:00 a.m.

UN News

SECRETARY-GENERAL

The Secretary-General's Message on the International Day of UN Peacekeepers



New York, 29 May: The international community's reliance on United Nations peacekeeping continues to deepen. Deployment is at a record high, with the number of troops, civilians and police totaling more than 113,000.

The personnel who serve under the UN flag do so in some of the most difficult and inhospitable areas on earth, where they face instability, disease and violence on a daily basis. These brave men and women have shown tremendous dedication, making a tangible difference in the lives of many while showing to the world the caring and committed face of the United Nations.

These efforts often come at high cost to the peacekeepers themselves. In 2008, 132 peacekeepers lost their lives in the line of duty – the highest one-year total in the history of UN peacekeeping . Whether felled by acts of violence, disease or accidents, each left an important legacy.

The loss of ten women among those who died reminds us that female personnel are playing an increasingly important role in peacekeeping, and that they now shoulder grave risks as well.

It has been nearly a decade since the Security Council adopted its landmark Resolution 1325 – the first omnibus text to recognize that women bear the brunt of armed conflicts, and should have a commensurate role in their prevention and resolution.

Since then, the United Nations has pressed forward with intensive efforts not only to involve more local women in peacemaking and peacebuilding, but also to recruit more women into our own operations. The point is not to achieve gender parity for its own sake; the imperative is to draw on the unique and powerful contribution women can make. Female blue helmets, human rights monitors and other mission staff offer new skills and styles of functioning in the ever-evolving field of peacekeeping. Often, they can better communicate with local women, generating a greater sense of security while serving as an example of women's empowerment.

As the Security Council has acknowledged, women frequently suffer most during conflicts, including from horrific acts of sexual- and gender-based violence. By including female police among our ranks, we foster a safe environment for victims to get the help they need and deserve. And by enabling victims to feel secure enough to come forward and press charges against perpetrators, we fight the culture of impunity that has prevailed for too long.

There are still far too few women peacekeepers. With women joining national militaries and police in greater numbers, it is critical that Member States contribute even more female personnel to the United Nations. On this International Day, let us draw on the power of women to strengthen UN peacekeeping while helping women and girls themselves to transform their destinies – and societies – for the better.



UN staff members looking at UN Peacekeepers' Posters at UN House. Photo: UNIC



UN Peacekeepers' Posters on the UNIC information board. Photo: UNIC

UN News

UNIC observes Day of Vesak



Director of UN Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific Mr. Taijiro Kimura inaugurating the International Observance of the Day of Vesak on 9 May 2009 observed at the UN House by lighting the sacred lamp. Photo: UNIC

Kathmandu, 14 May: UNIC, Kathmandu celebrated International Observance of the Day of Vesak on 9 May 2009 in the UN Conference Hall in association with the International Institute of Buddhist Studies Nepal .

The function was addressed by the Director of UN Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific Mr. Taijiro Kimura, Chairperson of the International Institute of Buddhist Studies Nepal Mr. Prem Lal Chitrakar and leading Nepalese Monks and Nuns. Mr. Kimura highlighted the significance of the Day from UN's perspective and read out UN Secretary-General Mr. Ban Ki-moon's message of the Day. Some 150 people participated in the event which was also widely covered by the local print and electronic media.

This Day has been approved by UN General Assembly resolution acknowledging that the Day of Vesak, the Day of the Full Moon in the month of May each year, be internationally recognized and, in particular, at United Nations Headquarters and other United Nations Offices, in recognition that the Day is the most sacred to Buddhists, who commemorate on that day, the birth of the Buddha, his attainment of enlightenment and his passing away.

UN welcomes steps to investigate church bombing



UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator Mr. Robert Piper
(File Photo: UNIC).

Kathmandu, 25 May 2009: The United Nations in Nepal welcomes steps taken by authorities to investigate the bombing Saturday of a Church in the Kathmandu Valley in which two persons were killed and eight others were seriously injured. These steps include a prompt investigation by Nepal Police, a visit to the site by the (then) Prime Minister-designate, the creation by the Home Ministry of a probe committee to investigate the attack and an investigation by the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC).

The United Nations offers its deepest condolences to the families of all of the victims. It condemns unequivocally the bombing of a place of worship, particularly at a time when the Church was known to be filled with people attending Mass.

The United Nations also welcomes public statements from various quarters, including the Government, civil society and the media, denouncing the bombing and urging full respect for the right of all persons to freedom of worship.

UN News

"Climate of mistrust threatening Nepal's peace process" says UNMIN Chief



Secretary General Representative to UNMIN Karin Landgren. (file Photo)

Kathmandu 5 May: In 2006, the Maoist rebels and Nepalese government signed an historic peace agreement 5 May 2009 – All parties in Nepal must work urgently to rebuild trust and achieve consensus, the top United Nations official in the country said today, warning that the crisis sparked by the Prime Minister's resignation threatens the gains made so far in the peace process.

"This is a volatile moment in Nepal's peace process," Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon's Representative Karin Landgren told a meeting of the Security Council, adding that the current political crisis reflects a "serious deficit of trust among the principal political actors." Prime Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal ("Prachanda"), who leads the Maoist Communist Party of Nepal (CPN-M), tendered his resignation yesterday after the Chief of Army Staff – who the Prime Minister fired on Sunday – was reinstated.

Ms. Landgren recalled the "significant" progress made in Nepal, including the successful conduct of elections, the ongoing work of the Constituent Assembly, and the declaration of a republic which brought a peaceful end to the monarchy. At the same time, she expressed concern that the latest developments will "divert already limited attention" being paid to unfulfilled commitments of the peace agreements that ended the country's decade-long armed conflict in 2006. Chief among these is the drafting of a constitution and the integration or rehabilitation of Maoist army personnel.

"Unfulfilled commitments are the Achilles' heel of the peace process, and threaten the peace dividend that the people of Nepal expect and so richly deserve," she said. The Representative noted that recent developments have "serious implications for the functioning of government and for the nature of the State to be shaped by Nepal's next constitution. "In the short term, there is a risk of paralysis with possibly protracted negotiations on forming a new government, and a stalling of preparations for the discharge of the disqualified and integration and rehabilitation of verified Maoist army personnel," she said. The Maoists hold 40 per cent of the seats in the Constituent Assembly, more than twice the number of any other party, and the constitution cannot be completed without their support, she noted.

"The peace process which Nepal has driven forward since 2005 has been remarkable, and the events of 2008 of historic magnitude," she said. "The parties should urgently take steps to rebuild trust and work together in the spirit of compromise and consensus needed to protect the achievements and ensure further progress in the coming weeks and months. "The next key steps – addressing the future of the Maoist army personnel, and drafting the new constitution - will be extremely difficult to achieve without a greater degree of political cooperation, and a common vision," she added.

The Security Council voiced its concern about the current political crisis. In a statement read out by Ambassador Vitaly Churkin of Russia, which holds the 15-member body's presidency for May, the Council underscored "the urgent need for the Government of Nepal and all political parties to continue to work together in the spirit of compromise."

Also today, Mr. Ban reiterated his serious concern about the political situation in the country during his monthly news conference in New York. "I call for dialogue and consensus to preserve and enhance the gains made from the peace process," he told reporters.



Richard Bennett of the human rights office (OHCHR) in Nepal

OHCHR Representative lauds SC reforms

Kathmandu, 19 May: The top United Nations human rights official in Nepal today welcomed Supreme Court reforms initiated by the fledgling democracy's newly appointed Chief Justice. Among the measures aimed at enhancing transparency in its system of jurisprudence, Chief Justice Bahadur Rayamajhi has established a Court Decisions Enforcement Directorate. A telephone hotline for people to register complaints about irregularities within the judicial system has also been set up along with the installation of CCTV in the Supreme Court.

Recognizing the critical role the Supreme Court plays in protecting human rights and the rule of law, Richard Bennett, Representative of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in Nepal (OHCHR-Nepal), applauded the Chief Justice's reforms when the two met today. Mr. Bennett used the occasion to confirm OHCHR's support for the independence of the judiciary, as well as to discuss upcoming joint ventures, including seminars for judicial officers on human rights organized in collaboration with the National Judicial Academy.

In a report released last month, Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon noted that progress has been made in Nepal's peace process, including steps towards drafting a new constitution, but warned that differences among key political parties continues to impede the consolidation of peace.

UN News

UNIC participates in International Day of Family event



UNIC National Information Officer Ram Babu Shah interacting with participants. Photo: UPF Nepal



Dr. Shree Krishna Yadav, former member of Nepal's Public Service Commission presenting a paper on Raising Children in a Loving Family Environment.

Kathmandu, 15 May: The UN International Day of Families was celebrated by organizing a symposium at the UPF-Nepal Peace Embassy Building, Naxal on the theme "Creating a World of Peace, One Family at a Time." The event was presided by former Speaker of Parliament Mr. Taranath Ranabhat.

On the occasion, UNIC National Information Officer Ram Babu Shah read out the message of UN Secretary General, Ban Ki Moon.

Papers were presented by Dr. Robert S. Kittel, Director Education, UPF-Asia, on "Raising Children in a Loving Family Environment"; by Dr. Shree Krishna Yadav, former member of Nepal's Public Service Commission, on "The Family as the Model of Social Harmony and Conflict Resolution" and comments were made by Mr. Shiva Chandra Neupane; Dr. Kamal Krishna Joshi and Mrs. Thresia Kittel.

Some 250 people from different walks of life, including several Nepali legislators participated in the programme.

Universal Peace Federation (UPF) is an NGO in Special Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, whose purposes are: to form a global alliance of individuals and organizations to solve critical problems and build a world of lasting peace; to promote interreligious dialogue and cooperation; to promote good governance centered on universal principles; to sponsor educational initiatives in the critical areas of human rights, HIV / AIDS and character education as well as conflict resolution; and to build a culture of peace through a multi-sectoral approach that include education, sports, arts and service. UPF seeks solutions to critical global problems by integrating political, economic and social approaches with inter religious cooperation.

UNdata - a data access system to UN databases

The United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) has launched a new internet-based data service for the global user community. It brings UN statistical databases within easy reach of users through a single entry point (**http://data.un.org**) from which users can now search and download a variety of statistical resources of the UN System.

On the occasion of the launch of this service, DESA Under-Secretary-General Sha Zukang stated:

"The UN System has accumulated over the past 60 years an impressive amount of information. UNdata, developed by the Statistics Division of DESA, is a new powerful tool, which will bring this unique and authoritative set of data not only to the desks of decision-makers and analysts, but also to journalists, to students and to all citizens of the world."

Since its foundation, the United Nations System has been collecting statistical information from Member States on a variety of topics. The information thus collected constitutes a considerable information asset of the organization. However, since these statistical data are often stored in proprietary databases - each with unique dissemination and access policies - as a result, users are often unaware of the full array of statistical information that the UN System has in its data libraries. The current arrangement also means that users are required to move from one database to another to access different types of information. UNdata addresses this problem by pooling major UN databases and those of several international organizations into a single internet environment. The innovative design allows users to access a large number of UN databases either by browsing the data series or through a keyword search.

UN News

South Asian journalists commemorate World Press Freedom Day 2009



Inauguration ceremony of the Media Conference by Nepal's President, Dr. Ram Baran Yadav.

Kathmandu, 30 May: UNESCO, jointly with OHCHR and the Federation of Nepali Journalists, convened a regional conference in Kathmandu on 3 and 4 May to observe World Press Freedom Day. Participants from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka focused on this year's theme "Media and Dialogue".

More than 150 media practitioners from the South Asian region attended the inauguration ceremony, which was opened by Nepal's President, Ram Baran Yadav. Following the screening of a video on the visit of the International Media Mission (IMM) to Nepal in February 2009, the President officially launched the reports A call to end violence and impunity, prepared by IMM and Under Fire: Press Freedom in South Asia 2008-2009 prepared by the International Federation of Journalists and the South Asia Media Solidarity Network. The latter reveals a worrying decline in press freedom across the seven countries assessed (Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka).

During the discussions and the experience-sharing sessions, South Asian journalists showcased three specific themes of common interest and concern:

- the limits to press freedom in South Asia,
- the potential of media in fostering dialogue, and
- the role of media in empowering citizens in countries in transition.

Particular attention was given to how media in South Asia deals with stereotypes and prejudices, religion and democracy, and tolerance and freedom of opinion.

In the Declaration on Media Freedom in South Asia, adopted at the closing session, participants emphasized the importance of their solidarity in facing common interests and common media challenges. They stressed the importance of World Press Freedom Day as an opportunity to celebrate the fundamental principles of press freedom, to evaluate press freedom, to defend the media from attacks on their independence and to pay tribute to journalists who have lost their lives in the line of duty.

Contact: Serena Pepino, UNESCO Office in Kathmandu

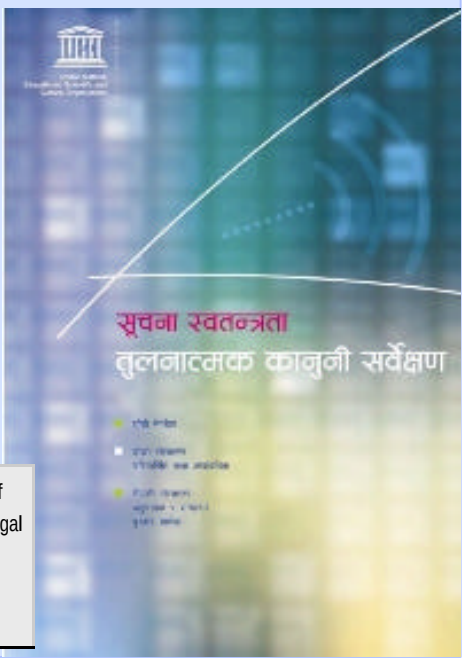
Report Launch

Toby Mendel's Freedom of Information: a comparative legal survey. Second edition – Translated into Nepali by UNESCO.

Kathamndu, 30 May: The importance of the right to information or the right to know is increasingly promoted by development practitioners, civil society, academics, the media and governments.

This book helps to answer questions faced by those tasked with drafting and /or promoting legislations guaranteeing the right to know in accordance with the principle of maximum disclosure. It describes the international standards which have been established in this area and some of the key features of effective freedom of information.

The Nepali edition includes an additional country chapter on Nepal.



Toby Mendel's Freedom of Information: a comparative legal survey. Second edition– Translated into Nepali by UNESCO.

UN News

Health and Hygiene Improvement Programme in Bharatpur and Ratnanagar



Participants of the water and sanitation workshop.
Photo: UN-HABITAT

Kathmandu, 27 May: Practical Action Nepal (PAN), Environment and Public Health Organization (ENPHO) and Municipal Association of Nepal (MuAN) is going to initiate different water and sanitation related activities under "Strengthening Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Treasuring Health" programme in Bharatpur and Ratnanagar Municipality with support of UN HABITAT Water for Asian Cities Programme Nepal and European Union (EU) to improve water supply and sanitation situation in these areas. The same project will also implement its activities for four years in other five municipalities and three peri urban areas in addition to these two municipalities.

An interaction programme was organized in Bharatpur to disseminate the information of various activities that will be implemented soon in these two towns. Speaking at the programme, Mr. Hom Nidhi Poudel of Social Welfare Branch, Bharatpur Municipality told that the project had been focused on various awareness raising activities to sensitize people resided in urban poor communities on water, sanitation and health related issues. According to him, the project has allocated 0.7 million euro for the project implementation.

Mr. Binaya Shrestha of PAN believed that the project will get success to improve public behavior on health and hygiene. The country bears the loss of some 10 billion rupees every year in combating with water borne epidemics and its preventive measures. This project has been anticipated to minimize waterborne disease epidemics and these financial losses by 25 percent in project areas. The project has also targeted to minimize in-house air pollution by 50 percent.

The project will promote environment friendly technologies in 16 communities, initiate School Led Total Sanitation (SLTS) approach in 35 schools; and train two hundred women social workers and leaders of 25 Women Groups on in-house air pollution and health related issues. It will also run a campaign in 35 schools, 16 communities and 20 health posts to increase public awareness.

Six thousand, out of 130 thousand, populations in Bharatpur are under poverty line. These populations are still deprived from adequate water, health and hygiene services. Similarly, 23 percent of 44 thousand 714 people in Ratnanagar are extremely poor. The project has been expected to improve livelihood in these municipalities by accessing water supply and sanitation services remarkably by the end of this project.

Mr. Binaya Shrestha of PAN, Mr. Rajendra Shrestha of ENPHO and Mr. Tika Ram Kandel had presented their papers on different aspects of the project at the programme. Political leaders including Mr. Khem Raj Poudel of Maoist Party; Mr. Bhakti Gautam of CPNUML and Mr. Hom Nath Sharma of Rastriya Janamorcha also shared their opinion at the programme.

Because Everyone Counts



Kathmandu, 29 May: With all the challenges facing the world today, how can you make a difference? UNFPA invites you to join in a series of on-line dialogues called "Conversations for a Better World." These conversations share a central theme: we cannot achieve a sustainable future unless we pay more attention to very basic issues, such as population, equality and health.

www.conversationsforabetterworld.org
www.unfpa.org/conversations

Through "Conversations for a Better World" Everyone is able to discuss topics like the relationship between population growth and poverty reduction, or the link between maternal mortality and human rights, to name just two hot issues.

"Conversations for a Better World" is UNFPA's contribution to the 15th anniversary of the International Conference on Population and Development that took place in Cairo in 1994. This conference produced a ground-breaking Programme of Action that emphasized individual rights and well-being in the context of population and development. It later provided a foundation for the Millennium Development Goals.

Get the facts. Join the Conversation. Let's find common ground!



UN News

Pakistani Officials trained on Water, Environmental Sanitation and Hygiene Education



Participants of the training of trainers. Photo: UN-HABITAT



Pakistani officials in field visit in Lubhu. Photo: UN-HABITAT

Kathmandu, 27 May: UN HABITAT and Indus Resource Centre (IRC), Pakistan jointly organized training on water, environmental sanitation and hygiene education in Kathmandu, Nepal from 19-26 April 2009 with the view to produce Master Trainers on water, sanitation and hygiene related issues. At the programme, altogether 20 officials from Government, Education Department, Schools and IRC in Pakistan were trained on various aspects of subject matters.

In addition to providing in-depth knowledge and skills on safe water, Point of Use (POU) options, Environmental Sanitation and Hygiene Education including Human Value Based Water & Sanitation Education; participants were also explained on the key tools and techniques so that they could transfer these knowledge at community level in Pakistan.

During the training, the participants were segregated in Technical and Educational groups. The technical group was equipped with technical knowledge on Water Quality Testing, Kanchan Arsenic Filter, Constructed Wetland, Biogas System and Rain Water Harvesting; and guided on technical details, construction, installation and cost estimation of these technologies. Similarly, the members of other group were made skillful and knowledgeable on improving school environment, establishing nature clubs, mobilizing and activating school children to improve school & community environment.

The participants were later taken to various communities, schools and demonstration sites including Siddhipur village, Lubhoo, Khokana and ECO HOME to witness the technologies they learned at the training. These visits helped them to increase their knowledge on various environment friendly technologies such as ECOSAN toilets, composting, rainwater harvesting and household water treatment options. The visit at schools also eased them to upscale their knowledge in the process of establishing nature clubs and developing participatory environment for the school children to get engaged in social activities.

UN-HABITAT and Indus Resource Center (I RC)-Pakistan has partnered for building capacity of schools and communities to facilitate behavioural change and to promote better understanding of the critical roles that water conservation and environmental sanitation play in human development and survivals. This intervention is envisaged to supplement the activities of the Sind Cities Improvement Investment Programme (SCIIP), Government of Sindh so that the quality, reliability and coverage of water supply, wastewater and solid waste management services can be improved in project covered cities.

Hence, these Master Trainers will incorporate their skills that they gained from the training in Nepal to accelerate the ongoing developmental activities in these cities covered by SCIIP. They will help to develop training material to conduct training programmes on water, sanitation and hygiene issues in Pakistan. The resource materials and other relevant materials developed by UN HABITAT and other agencies will be used as references for this purpose. In addition, they will assist in raising mass awareness by developing various IEC materials like audio-visual aids.

They will also organize Training of Trainers (ToT) in Pakistan to those selected from the target schools, government agencies, stakeholders, health workers, local Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and Community Based Organizations (CBSs) to produce trainers, who will conduct capacity building activities on water, sanitation and hygiene issues for various audiences and groups, and facilitate and promote the water, sanitation and hygiene activities at educational institutions and communities. These master trainers will provide technical support and necessary guidance to those trainers to establish water classroom, which will be developed as learning centre of several water and sanitation technologies such as rainwater harvesting, solid waste management system including biogas, wastewater treatment system, drinking water quality improvement options and simple field-level water testing kits.

Winter Drought Worsens Food Insecurity In Nepal

KATHMANDU, 27 May: Winter drought has led to a severe drop in crop production in Nepal, placing more than two million people at high risk of food insecurity, according to a joint assessment released this week by the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives (MoAC), the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the UN World Food Programme (WFP).

The 2008/2009 winter drought - one of the worst in the country's history - has destroyed crops across Nepal, with wheat and barley production reduced by 14 and 17 percent respectively. Crop yields in some districts in Mid- and Far-Western Nepal – which received less than 50 percent of average rainfall during the period from November 2008 to February 2009 - have dropped by more than half.



Children with their mothers in Jumla.
Photo: UN Millennium Campaign

The report – which was produced by MOAC, WFP and the FAO – estimates that 40 of the 75 districts are food deficit because of the drought and also expresses serious concerns about the nutrition situation across Nepal. Half of children under the age of five in these districts are stunted, while 39 percent of children are underweight and 13 percent are severely malnourished.

In response to the crisis, WFP plans to increase the number of people it is assisting in the most food insecure areas of Nepal from 1.5 million to 2.2 million in the coming weeks. WFP will provide food assistance for an additional 700,000 persons while helping drought-affected communities build up assets through a variety of Food for Work and Food for Training projects. At the same time, FAO plans to work with local communities to expand irrigation networks while distributing seeds for the next harvest.

"We are extremely concerned with the present food supply situation," said Bui Thi Lan, FAO Country Representative. "We urge more efforts from the Government of Nepal and the international community to provide immediate support for the next season crop to farmers in Far and Mid –Western regions where 75 percent of the cultivated land is un-irrigated," Lan continued, adding that timely support in terms of agricultural inputs, especially seeds, fertilizers and repair of small irrigation schemes will help needed farmers in these areas get a better harvest for their own food security.

"We are already noticing that people have started to sell their assets, migrate for work and in some cases skip meals," said Richard Ragan, WFP Representative in Nepal. "This is very worrying. We are also concerned about the impact that road blockades and increased food and fuel prices are having on mountain and hill markets. The supply of food stocks in local markets is insufficient and in some cases depleted," he said, adding that farmers – who make up more than 60 percent of Nepal's population – depend upon the country's winter crop production to tide them over until the main crop is harvested in September/October.

The full report is available at:
WFP FSMAU Website:
www.wfp.org/food-security/

For more information please contact:

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Cell +977-9841551570
Email: seetashma.thapa@wfp.org

UN News

Thursday, June 04, 2009: International Day Of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression



On 19 August 1982, at its emergency special session on the question of Palestine, the General Assembly decided to commemorate 4 June of each year as the International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression (resolution ES-7/8).

Friday, June 05, 2009: World Environment Day

URL: http://www.un.org/depts/dhl/environment

World Environment Day, commemorated each year on 5 June, is one of the principal vehicles through which the United Nations stimulates worldwide awareness of the environment and enhances political attention and action.



World Environment Day (WED) is one of the principal vehicles through which the United Nations stimulates worldwide awareness of the environment and enhances political attention and action.

The agenda is to give a human face to environmental issues; empower people to become active agents of sustainable and equitable development; promote an understanding that communities are pivotal to changing attitudes towards environmental issues; and advocate partnership which will ensure all nations and peoples enjoy a safer and more prosperous future.

Wednesday, June 17, 2009: World Day To Combat Desertification And Drought



The World Day to Combat Desertification, celebrated each year on June 17, is part of an international campaign by the United Nations to tackle global environmental deterioration, in particular the degradation of drylands. The day marks the anniversary of the adoption of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification.

Friday, June 26, 2009: International Day Against Drug Abuse And Illicit Trafficking

URL: http://www.un.org/depts/dhl/drug/index.html

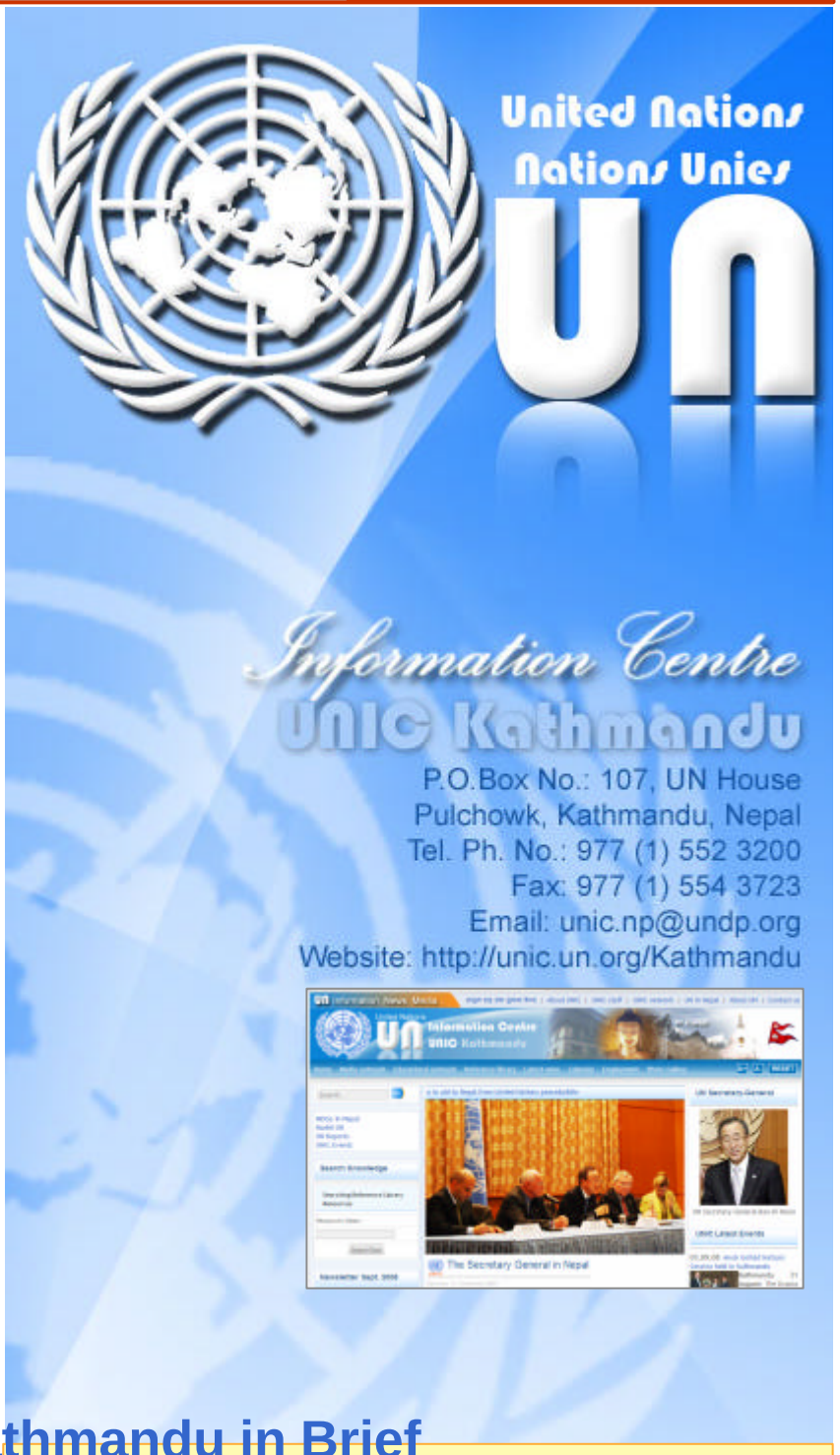


By resolution 42/112 of 7 December 1987, the General Assembly decided to observe 26 June as the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking as an expression of its determination to strengthen action and cooperation to achieve the goal of an international society free of drug abuse. This resolution recommended further action with regard to the report and conclusions of the 1987 International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking.

UN Resource Materials

UN Nepal

ADB
http://www.adb.org
FAO
http://www.fao.org
ILO
htt://www.ilo.org
IMF
http://www.imf.org
OHCHR
http://nepal.ohchr.org
OCHA
http://www.un.org.np
UNAIDS
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UNV
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WB
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WFP



UNIC Kathmandu in Brief

UNIC Kathmandu is located in the UN House where most of the UN agencies in Nepal are also located. UNIC has a same entrance for visitors to facilitate their access into the Centre - be it to consult the reference library; to attend press conferences or for seeking information on UN related issues.

UNIC undertakes extensive press activities, such as organizing press conferences for visiting UN officials, and for other UN agencies located in Nepal. It helps to prepare joint statements for the UN Country Team on various important issues and disseminates statements of the UN Secretary-General and other press releases/news/articles/reports coming from UN Headquarters. It is fully accessible to media persons and visitors during office hours.

http://unic.un.org/kathmandu

In its constant endeavor to upgrade its service delivery with new and innovative approach through recent Information Technology, UNIC Kathmandu has implemented the electronics library system with internet facility to visitors as well as eCatalogue for fast and efficient tracking of available contents in reference library. This catalogue is available online for home users as well as for other individuals.

URL:http://kathmandu.unic.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=80&Itemid=73